(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Direct Recruit SC/ST Officers of CSS joining as Section Officers (Group 'B' post) are being deprived of this benefit by way of equating them to the Direct Recruit Section Officers of General category while giving them regular promotion to the Grade-I *i.e.*, the lowest rung of Group 'A' post of CSS; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Anti-corruption raids by CBI in Kerala

3065. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any anti-corruption raids have been conducted by the CBI against either general public or the Central and State Government employees in Kerala during this year to bring out the assets disproportionate to their known sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of anti-corruption cases registered in the State pending for decision and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) In course of a Special Drive, carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation on 8th November 2002, it searched the residential premises of an employee of the ITDC Duty Free Shop, Sahar International Airport, Mumbai at Karavaloor Panchayat, Kollam District and in Mumbai, and registered a case under Section 13(2) read with 13(1) of Prevention of Corruption Act of criminal misconduct and disproportionate assets against him.

Presently, CBI is investigating 24 cases of anti-corruption registered in Kerala, of which 2 were registered in 2000, 4 in 2001 and 18 in 2002.